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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/616,370	07/08/2003	John J. Light	42P16121	1226

8791 7590 01/16/2007
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EXAMINER

SON, LINH L D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2135

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/16/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/616,370

Applicant(s)

LIGHT ET AL.

Examiner

Linh LD Son

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is responding to the file of the application received on 09/22/06.
2. Claims 1-21 are pending.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments, see Amendment, filed 09/22/06, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-21 under 35 USC § 103 rejection basis have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Haperen and Juels, and Gilchrist.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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5. Claims 1, 4-7, 9, 12-14, 16, 18, 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peter Van Haperen, GB 2313460 A (Cited in PTO 1449 dated 09/22/06), hereinafter "Haperen".

6. As per claims 1, 9, and 16:

Haperen discloses "A method of authenticating a user attempting to access a portable computing device comprising:

"causing a sequence of images to be shown on a display" in Figure 2;

"accepting an input selection from the user indicating that a currently displayed image of the sequence of images corresponds to a portion of the user's password, the user's password being known by the portable computing device" in (Fig 2, last 5 lines on page 3);

"correlating the input selection to the currently displayed image; and

allowing access to the portable computing device when the input selection and the currently displayed image temporally correspond to the portion of the user's password" in (First Paragraph on page 4).

However, Haperen does not teach the sequence of images corresponds to a portion of the user's password.

Nevertheless, Haperen discloses a sequence of images is a password.

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention was made for one having ordinary skill in the art to realize that a portion of the user's password can be broadly interpreted as a whole or entire portion of a password.

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7. As per claims 4 and 12:

Harperen discloses "The method of claims 1 and 9, further comprising setting the user password in the portable computing device prior to causing the sequence of images to be shown on the display" in (page 6, first paragraph).

8. As per claims 5, 18, and 13;

Haperen discloses "The method of claims 1, 16, and 9, wherein each image of the sequence of images comprises a plurality of symbols, the symbols comprising at least one of alphanumeric characters, playing card values, sports team logos, company logos, cartoon characters, and photographs, and each password portion comprises at least one symbol" in (Figure 1).

9. As per claims 6 and 14:

Haperen discloses "The method of claims 1 and 9, further comprising causing the display of visual feedback to the user when a portion of the user's password is correctly selected" in (Figure 2).

10. As per claims 7 and 15:

Juels discloses "The method of claims 1 and 9, wherein the display is part of a computing system un-trusted by the user" in (Page 5 last paragraph).

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11. As per claim 20:

Haperen discloses "The portable computing device of claim 16, further comprising a button for entering the input selection by the user, the button indicating one of activation and non-activation" (on page 3 last 2 sentences).

12. As per claim 21:

Haperen discloses "The portable computing device of claim 16, wherein the memory stores the user's password and the sequence of images" on (Page 2, first paragraph).

13. Claims 2 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haperen in view of Gilchrist, US Patent No. 6950949B1.

14. As per claims 2 and 10;

Haperen does not discloses "The method of claims 1 and 9, wherein the password comprises a plurality of portions, and further comprising repeating the causing, accepting and correlating for each of the plurality of password portions, and allowing access to the portable computing device when all input selections correlated to displayed images temporally correspond to the password"

Nevertheless, Gilchrist does discloses a method of entering multiple graphic passwords at once to fully authenticate in (Col 2 lines 45-50).

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention was made for one having ordinary skill in the art to modify Haperen's invention to incorporate Gilchrist's

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teaching of entering multiple set of graphical password to successfully authenticate.

The multiple entries can greatly increase the security in the authentication process.

15. Claims 3, 8, 11, 15, 17, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haperen in view of Juels (cited in PTO 892 dated 09/22/06).

16. As per claims 3, 11, and 17:

Haperen does not disclose the method of claims 1, 9, and 16, wherein causing the sequence of images to be shown on a display comprises sending the sequence of images over a wireless link to a computing system including the display.

Nevertheless, Juels discloses "The method of claims 1, 9, and 16, wherein causing the sequence of images to be shown on a display comprises sending the sequence of images over a wireless link to a computing system including the display" in (Para 0059, The photographic authentication technique can implemented in Mobile phone, and etc..).

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention was made for one having ordinary skill in the art to modify Haperen's invention to incorporate Juels' teaching of the picture authentication method in a mobile computing device environment for user friendly access with high protection.

17. As per claims 8, 19, and 15:

Haperen does not discloses "The method of claims 7 and 16, further comprising establishing an authenticated connection from the portable computing device to the

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un-trusted computing system including the display prior to causing the sequence of images to be shown on the display”.

Nevertheless, Juels discloses “a method of establishing an authenticated connection from the portable computing device to the un-trusted computing system including the display prior to causing the sequence of images to be shown on the display” in (Para 0060) (The portable user device communicates with an enrollment system 110 for authentication).

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention was made for one having ordinary skill in the art to modify Haperen’s invention to incorporate Juels’ teaching of the picture authentication method of a mobile computing device to an authorization party for user friendly access with high protection.

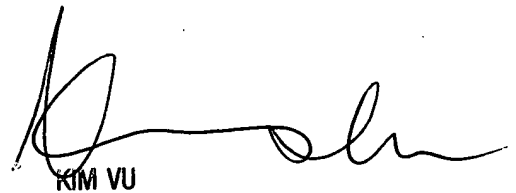
18. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Linh LD Son whose telephone number is 571-272-3856. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-6 (M-F).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on 571-272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Linh LD Son
Examiner
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kim Vu', with a stylized, flowing script.

KIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100